

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1-4, 7-9, 11 and 12 and cancel claims 5, 6 and 10 as shown in the following listing of claims, which replaces all previous listings and versions of claims.

1. (currently amended) An agricultural wheel tire having a tire tread having first and second lateral edges defining the width of the tread, the tire tread comprising:

a plurality of first lugs extending from an ~~approximate~~ a center of the tread width and terminating at the first lateral edge of the tire tread; and

a plurality of second lugs extending from the ~~approximate~~ center of the tread width and terminating at the second lateral edge of the tire tread;

wherein the first and second lugs extend in an alternating manner in a circumferential direction of the tire tread so that side surfaces of adjacent first ~~lugs,~~ an lugs ~~and an~~ end surface of one of the second lugs disposed between the adjacent first ~~lugs,~~ and lugs ~~define a first substantially arc shaped contour which extends to the first lateral edge of the tire tread and which forms with~~ a surface of the tire tread disposed between the adjacent first lugs ~~form~~ a first ~~generally~~ substantially spherical-shaped depressed portion, and so that side surfaces of adjacent second ~~lugs,~~ an lugs and

an end surface of one of the first lugs disposed between the adjacent second lugs, and lugs define a second substantially arc shaped contour which extends to the second lateral edge of the tire tread and which forms with a surface of the tire tread disposed between the adjacent second lugs form a second generally substantially spherical-shaped depressed portion.

2. (currently amended) An agricultural wheel tire according to claim 1; wherein the adjacent first lugs are spaced apart, in the circumferential direction of the tire tread, from disposed in overlapping relation with the second lug disposed therebetween; and wherein the adjacent second lugs are spaced apart, in the circumferential direction of the tire tread, from disposed in overlapping relation with the first lug disposed therebetween.

3. (currently amended) An agricultural wheel tire according to claim 1; wherein the agricultural wheel tire has an equatorial centerplane crossing each of the first and second lugs in a circumferential and axial directions direction of the agricultural wheel tire.

4. (currently amended) An agricultural wheel tire according to claim 3; wherein each of the first and second depressed portions are is symmetrical about a line extending through a longitudinal center thereof and crossing the equatorial centerplane.

5. - 6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended) An agricultural wheel tire according to claim 1; wherein each of the first and second depressed portions are is symmetrical about a line extending through a longitudinal center thereof and crossing an equatorial centerplane of the agricultural wheel tire.

8. (currently amended) An agricultural wheel tire according to claim 1; wherein each of the first and second lugs has ~~an~~ a flat outer tread surface for contacting a surface of the ground during a working operation of the agricultural wheel tire ~~tire, the outer tread surface of each of the first and second lugs being generally planar.~~

9. (currently amended) A wheel tire for use on an agricultural vehicle drive wheel to be driven on soft soil, the wheel tire having a tire tread having first and second lateral edges defining the width of the tire tread, the tire tread comprising: two sets of lugs, the first set of lugs extending from ~~an approximate~~ a center of the tread width and terminating at the first lateral edge of the tire tread, and the second set of lugs extending from the ~~approximate~~ center of the tread width and terminating at the second lateral edge of the tire tread, the first and second sets of lugs extending in an alternating manner in a circumferential direction of the

tire tread so that corresponding side and end surfaces of adjacent first and second lugs define substantially arc shaped contours which extend to the corresponding first and second lateral edges of the tire tread and which form with corresponding surfaces of the tire tread substantially form generally spherical-shaped depressed portions of the tire tread, the spherical-shaped depressed portions being arranged in the circumferential direction of the tire ~~thread~~ tread so that when the wheel tire is driven on soft soil, the spherical-shaped depressed portions engage and are buried in the soft soil and the soft soil is gathered inward of the spherical-shaped depressed portions and gradually hardened so that soft soil located between and surrounding the adjacent first and second lugs increases in hardness to thereby prevent the wheel tire from sinking into the soft soil.

10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended) A wheel tire according to claim 9; wherein the wheel tire has an equatorial centerplane crossing each of the first and second sets of lugs in a circumferential and axial directions direction of the wheel tire.

12. (currently amended) A wheel tire according to claim 9; wherein each of the spherical-shaped depressed portions of the tire tread is symmetrical ~~comprise a plurality of pairs of adjacent spherical-shaped depressed portions disposed symmetrically~~ about a line extending through a longitudinal center thereof and traversing an equatorial centerplane of the wheel tire.